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Pyongyang Proposes to Hold Interparliamentary Talks Aimed For Non-Aggression with Seoul

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In a new bid for dispelling the danger of war and easing tensions on the Korean Peninsula, members of the DPRK's Supreme People's Assembly (national assembly) have called on their counterparts in Seoul to hold interparliamentary talks aimed at drafting a "joint declaration of non-aggression" and to have a preliminary contact at Panmunjom in early May to discuss the matter.

The proposal was made in a "letter to the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea" adopted unanimously at the April 9-11 Fourth Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly.

The letter by Yang Myong Sop, Chairman of the SPA Standing Committee, was conveyed to the South Korean National Assembly Speaker, Chae Mun Sik, through Panmunjom.

Although Pyongyang regards the proposed three-way talks as the key to all the issues involved, the letter urges the fellow countrymen to sit at one table to discuss tension-reducing measures as far as possible "even before the holding of tripartite talks."

Deputy Ho Dam in a report made at the first-day session says that north and south Korean parliamentarians should, first of all, focus on the question of announcing a joint declaration on non-aggression between the two sides. He called it "a practical measure to promote national rapprochement and trust between north and south and relax tension."

Seoul has always claimed the so-called "military threat from north Korea" while Pyongyang has officially denied Seoul's claim.

The former DPRK foreign minister said, "The most serious gap dividing the north and the south today stems from the distrust in and misunderstanding about each other."

"In order to resolve distrust and misunderstanding between north and south," he stresses, "it is necessary to dispel one's own apprehensions about the threats on northward invasion and 'southward invasion.' "

Pyongyang has no intention to reunify the divided peninsula by force. High-ranking government officials, including President Kim Il Sung, have said that Pyongyang has neither ability nor intention to "invade south Korea." And yet Seoul has continued to clamor about "the threat from north Korea" to justify its military buildup.

The proposal to reunify the country through establishment of north-south confederation in which the existing political, economic and social systems of both sides will remain as they are, reflects Pyongyang's earnest efforts for the peaceful solution of reunification.

"If the north-south parliamentary talks agree on and make public the joint declaration of non-aggression, the north and south authorities would materialize it, thereby easily solving the problem of adopting the north-south declaration of non-aggression," says Mr. Ho Dam.

Last year, Pyongyang proposed to hold talks with the United States and south Korea on reducing tensions in Korea and creating favourable climate for reunification talks.

The question of adopting a non-aggression declaration between north and south Korea was raised as one of the issues to be discussed at three-way talks.

The latest proposal by the DPRK reflects its serious attitude toward peace in Korea. As the November 23 Panmunjom incident showed, peace on the Korean Peninsula is highly volatile and precarious and the Korean question holds for the peace and security of the whole Asia as well as of the rest of the world.

It also reflects Pyongyang's hope to hold high-level talks between north and south Korea and continue Red Cross and economic talks which were interrupted by Team Spirit 85, U.S.-south Korea joint military exercise whose scenario hypothesizes nuclear attack against north Korea.

Mr. Ho Dam in his report avoided such harsh expressions as "the south Korean puppet clique" or "the south Korean puppet national assembly" often used by north Korean media.

Instead, he, in an official report, called the boss of the military-backed south Korean regime "President Chon Du Hwan" and the south Korean national assembly "the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea."

Deputy Ho declares:

"If the issue of non-aggression and other questions of easing tension and ensuring peace were successfully solved between the north and the south, antagonism and confrontation within the nation would be cleared away and an atmosphere of trust and unity be created, a radical turn be brought about in the whole dimension of the north-south relations and the groundwork for peace and peaceful reunification be laid.

"If members of both parliaments sat down at one place and, with the same purpose and concerted effort, sought a way for a peaceful life of the Korean nation, there would be created excellent conditions and circumstances for arranging high-level political talks between north and south.

"The parliamentary talks would have an encouraging influence on the economic negotiations and Red Cross talks and open up a bright prospect for north-south cooperation and interchange."

The proposal for interparliamentary talks also reflects power changes in the South Korean National Assembly.

The New Korea Democratic Party which made a marvelous success in the Feb. 12 national assembly election has emerged as the largest major parliamentary opposition in recent history because of a series of defections from the Democratic Korea Party and the Korea National Party.

The NKDP which obtained 67 seats as the result of the election now has 103 seats of the 276-seat South Korean National Assembly.

Interparliamentary talks could be a proper form of the talks that would weigh every opinion of the people of broad sections of the north and south in discussing the question of peace in the country related to the destiny of the nation, "since Our Supreme People's Assembly and its counterpart in the Republic of Korea embrace various political parties in north and south," says Mr. Ho in his report.

In addition, both sides will be able to reallot huge amount of military expenditure to the peaceful economic construction if both sides restore trust and understanding by reaching an agreement on non-aggression.

Although a conclusion of the declaration presupposes a peace agreement with the United States, it will be able to "make big stride in preventing possible armed conflicts and other unwanted happenings and laying a base for peace and the peaceful reunification of the country," Ho Dam added. Deputy Ho Dam has three posts: member of the Political Bureau, and Secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

Deputy Ho stresses:

"The non-aggression declaration will be a historical peace declaration announcing internally and externally that the north and the south will take the road to peace and peaceful reunification, not to the fratricide and it will also be an excellent manifestation of the national unity in which we will improve the north-south relations on the basis of the national concord and trust and shape our nation's destiny on our own."

He stated that north Korean parliamentarians are ready to discuss whatever proposal of their counterparts at the proposed talks "if it would be conductive to lessening the tension and guaranteeing peace in the country."

As forms of parliamentary talks, Mr. Ho says, talks either in the form of a joint session of both parliaments or in the form of talks between the representatives of both parliaments composed of parliamentary delegations are desirable.

He elaborated on a joint session: "... it sounds reasonable that the members of the South Korean National Assembly would be present at a session of our Supreme People's Assembly and our deputies to the SPA at a plenary session of South Korean National Assembly and they would jointly discuss and decide the issues with equal rights and duties."

As to talks between representatives of both parliaments, he said, "it will be

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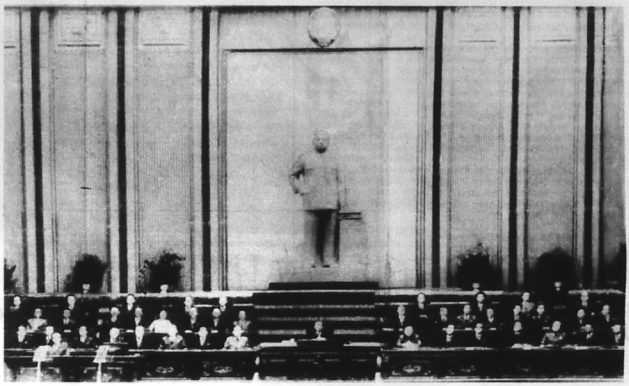

The Fourth Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly was held at the Mansudae National Assembly Hall in downtown Pyongyang from April 9 to 11. The Mansudae National Assembly Hall was completed last year. (KCNA Radiophoto)

Happy Birthday to President Kim Il Sung!

President Kim Il Sung marked his 73rd birthday on April 15.

The history of his revolutionary activity for more than 50 years is the brilliant history of the great thinker and theoretician and the outstanding leader of the revolution who created the Juche idea, embodied it splendidly and scored immortal achievements in the Korean revolution and the world revolution. It is also the history of the great leader of the people who was born in the people and has devoted his all life to the freedom and happiness of the people. Therefore, not only the Korean people but also the progressive people of the world celebrate his 73rd birthday sincerely and wish him long life.

Masters of Revolution and Construction Are People

Immediately after the colonial rule of Korea by the Japanese imperialists started, President Kim Il Sung was born into a patriotic and poor farmer's family in Mangyongdae, Pyongyang. From his childhoold, he personally witnessed and experienced the miserable life of the Korean people who were suffering from harsh oppression and expropriation under the colonial, semi-feudal social system.

In his boyhood, he already devoted himself to an anti-revolutionary struggle at the age of 14, with an aspiration for national liberation and class emancipation. In this course, he learned a serious lesson from the fact that Korean nationalists and communists preoccupied with flunkeyism and did harm to the anti-Japanese national-liberation movement, irrespective of the role of the popular masses in the revolution, created the Juche idea and powerfully waged the struggle to embody it.

President Kim Il Sung said as follows: "The Juche idea, in a nutshell, is the idea that masters of revolution and construction are the popular masses and power to propel revolution and construction bases on them. In other words. This means that they themselves are the masters of their own destinies and that the power to carve out their own destinies is also based on themselves."

He was confident that the masters of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle were the popular masses and that victory would be won in the revolutionary struggle if they rose up in the struggle. Then, working among them, he made the masses conscious of their strength, unite and rise up in the anti-Japanese struggle.

After that, he always held fast to the Juche idea in whatever difficulties and ordeals and put forward a Juche-oriented revolutionary line and a Juche-oriented strategic and tactical line. He solved all the problems from an independent and creative position and led the revolution and construction to victory.

Changed Korea into an Advanced Cultural State

President Kim Il Sung achieved the historical cause of restoration of the fatherland, taking the van in the anti-Japanese struggle for 15 years and created revolutionary tradition in the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean revolution. After the liberation, he founded the Workers' Party of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by embodying the line of the people's revolutionary government, on the basis of the policy of founding a revolutionary party prepared in the course of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and established the people's severeign power as a powerful weapon for construction of socialism and communism and for guaranteeing the freedom and happiness of the masses.

In the period of the Fatherland Liberation War against the armed invasion of the U.S. imperialists, he led the People's Army and the Korean people to a brilliant victory, and defended the independence and dignity of the nation. On the other hand, the U.S. imperialists suffered the ignominious defeat in the struggle for the first time in the history. He brought about the beginning of decline for the U.S. imperialists. This brought about an epochal turn in the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle of the world.

Bringing about a great social change in the long backward Korea, the President organized and mobilized the masses to construct socialism and communism and gained a shining victory.

After the liberation, he clearly defined the characteristics and the tasks of the Korean revolution and put forth the tasks of an original anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and the line of socialist revolution. Thanks to his Juche-oriented, wise guidance, a difficult and complicated social revolution was carried out thoroughly in a short time and a socialist system to serve the people, a system free from suppression and exploitation was established in the northern half of the Republic. He set forth the basic line of Juche-oriented socialist economic construction, a line of the socialist industrialization and a programme for socialist rural construction. Arousing the whole people in the struggle to carry them out, he attained industrialization within only 14 years and effected a great upsurge in every field of socialist economic construction.

He also set forth a programme for Juche-oriented education and the line of cultural construction and changed the backward country to an advanced cultural state with the most advanced education system and a national cadres training system.

For the Cause of Juche

President Kim Il Sung put forth the revolutionary tasks for modelling the whole society after the Juche idea even after the establishment of the socialist system and is leading all the people to a complete victory of socialism. Under the banner of three revolutions – the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions – he is arousing all the people in the struggle to attain the ten-long term objectives of socialist economic construction and leading them to create new miracles, promoting the revolutionization, working-classization and intellectualization of the whole society.

The President who devoted himself to the struggle for the victory of the Korean revolution is calling up all the people to construction of socialism and communism and to realization of Korea's reunification, taking the lead in all party state affairs, including military affairs and diplomatic activities.

The President frequently goes out to give on-the-spot guidance. Then, he goes among the masses including workers and peasants, learns from them, brings out their wisdom and energy, and organizes and mobilizes them so that they may play their role as masters of revolution and construction.

He loves the masses and extends warm care to them.

The Korean people who enjoy an independent, creative and happy life as masters of the state and society, revolution and construction, firmly rally around him and work devotedly for the cause of Juche.

They are proud of having President Kim Il Sung as their leader and regard it as the greatest happiness and the highest pride.

This year is a significant year to greet the 40th anniversary of Korea's liberation and the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea. Thanks to his wise guidance, the Korean people will advance further to attain the cause of Juche and realize a peaceful reunification of Korea.

The President giving on-the-spot guidance to the Wonhwa Cooperative Farm in Pyongwon county, South Pyongan Province.

POEM

Long Live the Tower of Juche Idea!

Fadel A.B.D. El Nasser (Egypt)

Whenever I go to work.
Whenever I have a walk for airing.
Unbearably I feel like seeing.
And I stop my walk.
To see the picture of the Tower of Juche Idea.

Yet, I haven't seen.
The tower on the Taedong River.
Whenever I come here – Cultural Centre of Korea.
I have deeper thought.
At its bright rays.
And I pledge to be a defender of Juche.

The history of mankind began.
Thousands of years ago.
Many a tower rose on the earth.
But no tower has gripped.
The millions of hearts as you.

The Tower of Juche Idea.
Soars high up into the sky of the century.
Teaching mankind truth.
Defending human dignity.
And giving mankind strength.
There is no such tower anywhere else in the world.

Even the picture of the tower.
Sheds the lights of truth.
The bright rays of the Juche idea.
President Kim Il Sung.
Created through numberless bloody battles.

Looking up at the tower.
I will follow its rays.
For the Juche cause.
I will go in the ranks of Juche defenders.

O, the tower of Juche.
You glorify the name of President Kim Il Sung.
Stand forever.
For thousands of years, tens of thousands of years.

Long live President Kim Il Sung!
Long live the Tower of Juche Idea!

On Taking Practical Measure to Promote National Rapprochement and Trust Between North and South and Ease Tension of Country

Report of Deputy Ho Dam

Deputy Ho Dam, member of the Political Bureau, and Secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, made a report on the first agenda item "On Taking a Practical Measure to Promote the National Rapprochement and Trust between the North and the South and Ease the Tension of the Country" at the fourth session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly which opened in Pyongyang on Apr. 9.

He said in part:

3-Way Talks Offer, Pyongyang's Sincere Aspiration for Peace

The three-way talks proposal we advanced at the joint meeting of the Central People's Committee and the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea convened in January last year at the initiative of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung proves itself to be the most fair and peace-oriented one to convert tense confrontation polarized for over 30 years since the ceasefire in our country into a relaxation and to safeguard peace in Korea, Asia and the rest of the world, and, at the same time, an epochal, national salvation measure which will give rise to watershed momentum for the country's independent and peaceful reunification.

The tripartite talks proposal, therefore, has enlisted unstinted support from the entire Korean people of the north and the south including all overseas compatriots and evoked positive response from the broad masses of the world people.

We reiterated once again in no uncertain terms the earnest desire and sincere stand of the DPRK Government to solve the question of peace on the Korean Peninsula by expressing our willingness to discuss at the table of the tripartite talks the "confidence-building measures" set forth by U.S. President Reagan during the 39th U.N. General Assembly in October last year.

Through the righteous, peace-oriented initiative and painstaking endeavours to put it into effect, we manifested once again internally and externally the peace-loving stands of the DPRK Government and thus won firm support from the fair public opinion of the world, and created by piecemeal a new atmosphere for lessening the acute confrontation between the north and the south.

Red Cross Relief Goods Opened New Phase of N-S Dialogue

Amid the great expectation and desire of the whole nation the Red Cross talks were resumed at last and the first economic negotiations conducted between the north and the south.

The positive phase in the development of the situation opened before us is another hard-won, golden opportunity provided through the arduous struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country, and it is valuable as far as both the north and the south are concerned.

We must not let slip this precious opportunity but render the situation develop in favor of the peace and peaceful reunification of the country.

The present situation, however, assumes a tendency to go back to the confrontation and tension.

Under the pretext of the so-called "annual occurrence" the largest-scale military exercises "Team Spirit 85" was staged in south Korea with the mobilization of large forces more than 200,000 strong from February this year, as the rehearsal was held last year.

We should no longer waste time with nonsense, nor exhaust the energetic efforts and wealth of the nation in confrontation and tension, repeating the bitter history as before.

The repetition of this process will make it impossible for the north and the south to effect reconciliation, lead a peaceful life and advance even a step forward for the country's reunification.

The stark reality urgently calls upon all the politicians of north and south responsible for the nation's destiny to make a departure from the old concept of antagonism and distrust and to immediately turn out as one to the road of national salvation to avoid the national peril with a new determination and will.

To Remove Mil. Tension And Resolve Distrust, Misunderstanding Between N-S

Out of this desire, we, in the name of this session of the Supreme People's Assembly, courteously propose to the National Assembly of South Korea that our Supreme People's Assembly and the South Korean National Assembly contact each other and hold talks. We advance this as an initial measure to bring about a turning point in shifting the situation.

Under the present circumstances, it is incumbent upon the politicians assuming weighty responsibility for the country and nation to hold north-south parliamentary talks.

In particular, taking into consideration the failure of holding talks at vice-premier level we proposed and the limitations of the Red Cross talks and negotiation on economic affairs, it is an unavoidable duty for both parliaments, even from the point of view in their original mission, to boldly make a breach in the barrier between north and south and sit together to find out a way to cope with national trouble.

Our suggestion to sit together now at the north-south parliamentary talks has proceeded from the position of intending to settle the issue of peace in our country, if possible, by the efforts of the north and the south even before holding of three-way talks.

We cannot rest with folded arms waiting for somebody else to bring peace to us.

Even if the question of consolidating peace in Korea can never be completely solved without the holding of the three-way talks, however, we should not hesitate to avail ourselves of every possibility if that signifies even a step nearer to peace and we should make no bones about a get-together of the north and the south as well.

The north and the south should pool their efforts to deliver the nation from the danger and settle the internal affairs by themselves.

To relax tension and create the favorable premises for the north-south dialogue and national reunification is an important question related to the vital interests of the whole nation. It requires, accordingly, in the discussion of this question, a full reflection of the will and demand of the whole nation and presence of the representatives of all strata.

Since our Supreme People's Assembly and the South Korean National Assembly embrace the politicians from various political parties, the north-south parliamentary talks assumes the whole-national character to some extent.

Therefore, the dialogue therein will be able to proceed on the basis of democracy and the question to be discussed can fully mirror the will of all sections.

In this respect, we are sure that the north-south parliamentary talks can be said to be the most rational and practical form of dialogue today for finding out an outlet to save the nation from the crisis.

Question of Non-Aggression Declaration Should Be Discussed

The talks between the north and the south parliamentarians should, first of all, focuss on the question of announcing a joint declaration of non-aggression between the two sides as a practical measure to promote national rapprochement and trust between north and south and relax tension.

The most serious gap dividing the north and the south today stems from the distrust in and misunderstanding about each other.

In order to resolve distrust and misunderstanding between north and south, it is necessary to dispel one's own apprehensions about the threats of northward invasion and "southward invasion."

The great leader taught earlier that the north and the south should have a right stand on the dialogue, that not a good result could be expected from the dialogue if they had daggers in their belts and that genuine dialogue could be arranged only when they put down their daggers.

As the great leader pointed out, if the north and the south want to trust each other and, on this basis, hold dialogue, it is imperative first to take the daggers out of the bosom it is imperative then for both sides to ensure our side not to infringe upon the other.

This problem cannot be settled mere-

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EDITORIAL

Epochal Proposal for North-South Inter-Parl. Talks

The north-south interparliamentary talks (or the north-south interparliamentary joint session) proposed by members of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK to their south Korean counterparts will contribute toward removing misunderstanding between the two sides which stands in the way of the independent and peaceful solution of the Korean question and also toward easing the crucial tensions prevailing around the peninsula and maintaining peace. Therefore, this proposal will be supported at home and abroad and appraised as an epochal and realistic one.

As is known, the peace of Korea and its reunification, the supreme task of the 60 million Koreans, are necessary for the peace and stability of Asia.

The proposals for three-way talks and a north-south dialogue in January 1984 and January this year derived from a sincere wish to materialize Korea's early reunification at any cost. Thus, large quantities of relief goods were sent to south Korea's flood victims in September 1984 as the first relief goods to south Korea since the division of the country and economic talks and a preliminary Red Cross meeting between the two parts of Korea were realized in November last year, too.

The suspension of the contact is clearly due to the start of the U.S.-south Korea joint military exercises in preparation for a nuclear attack on the north. At last, it was agreed to resume the second north-south economic talks at Panmunjom on May 17 and the 8th Red Cross meeting in Seoul from May 27 to 30.

It was in this situation that the proposal for north-south interparliamentary talks was made. This stems from the just position that the issue of peace in Korea should be solved as much as possible by the two sides even before the tripartite talks.

Of course, economic talks and Red Cross negotiations are very effective and are sure to bear fruit in their own ways. But the most urgent problem is to remove misunderstanding and recover mutual trust between the north and south and to ease tensions and safeguard peace in the Korean Peninsula. This question should come first.

Therefore, politicians assuming high responsibility for the future of the Korean nation are required to sit at table to discuss this urgent question.

This proposal is aimed at promoting mutual help and cooperation between the north and south Korean politicians in overcoming all difficulties and hurdles.

Pyongyang hopes to broach the question of a joint declaration of non-aggression between both sides as a practical measure to promote rapprochment and trust and relax tensions. If both parts of Korea agree on and issue a joint declaration, the two governments would materialize it, making it easy for them to adopt a declaration of non-aggression.

This will pave the way for high-level talks and three-way talks and will play a decisive role in accelerating the solution of the Korean problem.

We urge the south Korean authorities to make an affirmative response to this proposal, expecting a preliminary contact between the working-level delegates appointed by the respective parliamentary speakers to be held at Panmunjom in early May.

"Letter to National Assembly of ROK" Adopted at Supreme People's Assembly

PYONGYANG April 9 (KCNA) – Follows the full text of "Letter to the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea" adopted at the fourth session of the seventh Supreme People's Assembly which opened today:

This year is a significant year when our nation will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the August 15 Liberation.

On this historic day 40 years ago, our land of three thousand *ri* was overflowing with joy and emotion at the liberation with no demarcation line between the north and the south.

The loud shouts of joy of the whole nation on the liberation day, however, soon died down and the heart-breaking history of national division that began that day has not come to an end yet, though 40 years have passed since then.

Indeed, the 40 years following the liberation have been years of division, of confrontation and of calamities.

How many compatriots and brethren in north and south and abroad departed this life, crying for reunification, after dedicating their whole life to it, in order to terminate the history of division running against the desire and will of our nation.

Yet the barrier dividing us is rising higher with the lapse of time and the confrontation within the nation and the danger of war are growing acute on top of this suffering from division.

Out of the desire to put an end to this unhappy state of affairs, we proposed to south Korea and the United States of America early last year to have tripartite talks as a step signifying a turning point in easing tensions and guaranteeing peace.

Although one year has passed since then, the three-way talks has not yet been realized but the situation is becoming more strained.

Worse still, kept in abeyance are both the Red Cross talks resumed after a long suspension and the economic negotiations which started anew with the significant event of the first delivery of relief goods from the north to the south.

And the atmosphere of relaxation created once is being spoilt again.

Under the situation of the constant alternation of dialogue and confrontation, relaxation and tension, we must ponder over and draw a proper lesson from it.

Confrontation and war are beneficial neither to the north nor to the south.

They will only exhaust for nothing the energy and wealth of the nation and bring a self-destruction to the nation in the long run.

We must not aggravate the tension in confrontation against fellow countrymen but pave the way of relaxation and peace through dialogue.

Relaxation and peace is the only way for the north and the south to live and prosper together.

It is us politicians of north and south who should pave this way on which the survival and fall of the nation depend.

It is high time the politicians of north and south sat together and sought an outlet for relaxation and peace, we believe.

Urged by this sense of weighty responsibility, we, in the name of the current Supreme People's Assembly, solemnly propose to your national assembly that talks be held between the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea as a step toward a practical action for dispelling the danger of war and easing tensions created in our country.

This proposal of ours proceeds from our stand that the fellow countrymen should sit at one table and solve problems as far as possible, if it would be conducive to the relaxation of tension and peace even before the holding of tripartite talks.

The best way the two sides can take is to have parliamentary talks under the present conditions where our proposal to hold talks of vice-premier level between the authorities has not been realized and the Red Cross or economic talks can hardly settle such question as the relaxation of tension.

Such talks would be the most proper form of dialogue that would weight every opinion of the people of broad sections of the north and south in discussing and solving the question of peace in the country related to the destiny of the nation, since our Supreme People's Assembly and its counterpart in the Republic of Korea embrace various political parties in north and south.

We are of the view that the parliamentary talks of the two sides should discuss to begin with the question of proclaiming a joint declaration of non-aggression to ease the tension and improve the north-south relations.

Should this important problem be solved first through the parliamentary talks, it would be of practical help for both authorities to collaborate on it and adopt a north-south declaration of non-aggression stipulating that neither side would resort to arms against the other side.

We are ready to discuss whatever proposal of the south Korean side at the parliamentary talks, if it would be conducive to lessening the tension and guaranteeing peace in the country.

If the issue of non-aggression and other questions of easing tension and ensuring peace were successfully solved between the north and the south, antagonism and confrontation within the nation would be cleared away and an atmosphere of trust and unity be created, a radical turn be brought about in the whole dimension of the north-south relations and the groundwork for peace and peaceful reunification be laid.

The opening of parliamentary talks would, no doubt, prove to be a new landmark in paving the way for diversified forms of dialogue between north and south and stimulate its successful progress.

If members of both parliaments sat down at one place and, with the same purpose and concerted effort, sought a way for a peaceful life of the Korean nation, there would be created excellent conditions and circumstances for arranging high-level political talks between north and south.

The parliamentary talks would have an encouraging influence on the economic negotiations and Red Cross talks and open up a bright prospect for north-south cooperation and interchange.

We believe that there is ample possibility of holding north-south parliamentary talks which would put an end to the 40-year long history of distrust and confrontation and bring harmony and peace to our nation.

Both sides already expressed in the new year address and the policy speech their positive stands towards the north-south dialogue and their intense hope for top-level talks between the authorities.

This confirms the presence of a common foundation on which the north and the south can arrange a dialogue to promote reconciliation and trust and lessen tensions.

There may be different forms of parliamentary talks.

But we think it advisable either to open a joint session of both parliaments or to hold talks between parliamentary delegations.

As far as the former is concerned, it would be possible for the members of your national assembly to attend the session of our Supreme People's Assembly and the deputies of our SPA attend the NA plenary session of your side, with equal rights and duties.

In case of talks between parliamentary delegations, it would be reasonable that both sides respectively form their delegations composed of a proper number of parliamentarians from different political parties and led by speakers or duputy speakers.

In order to hold a prior consultation for the north-south parliamentary talks, we consider it reasonable to have a preliminary contact at Panmunjom early in May between working-level delegates appointed by their respective speakers.

Those politicians who truly love the country and concern themselves about the nation's destiny should make sincere efforts to bring reconciliation and peace in deeds, not in words, in face of the urgency of the need to ensure peace and lay a foundation for reunification.

Peace and reunification are both for our nation and they should be achieved by our people themselves.

Idea and system are precious to us of the same blood. But the nation is dearer, and we must think of it first.

When we consider the national commonness most important and work together, we as the same blood can live in peace, not fighting each other, and open up a broad vista of national reunification.

All of the conscientious politicians of the north and the south, keenly conscious of the heavy responsibility they have assumed for the country and the nation, should shake themselves free from the old idea of discord, distrust and confrontation and readily embark on the road of patriotism for reconciliation, trust and peace.

It is a noble cause not for the politicians only, but for the whole nation to remove the danger of war and shape a bright future of the nation, reunified and peaceful.

The whole nation of north and south should by all means make concerted efforts to prevent war by alleviating the tension and live a bountiful life alike by accelerating peaceful economic construction they should be allowed to cross the demarcation line and freely travel between north and south to share warm feelings of national harmony and kinship.

We earnestly appeal to the south Korean political parties and groupings, people of all strata, and youth and students to actively respond to our patriotic initiative oriented to the day of reunification and to keep pace with the grand nation-wide march for peace and peaceful reunification.

Our nation is favoured with the common milestone set up on the road to peace and reunification, that is the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity for the country's reunification laid down on July 4.

We should march forward along the road indicated by the milestone in order to open a new chapter in the history of the whole nation for peace and reunification, thus recording this meaningful year marking the 40th anniversary of the country's liberation as the most significant year in the history of our nation.

We, out of this desire, sincerely hope that your newly-born National Assembly will seriously discuss our new peace proposal promising a peaceful land free from confrontation and war and the future of reunified and independent country, and send us an affirmative reply.

Fourth Session of the Seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

April 9, 1985
Pyongyang

(Continued from page 3)

ly through the table of the working-level dialogues such as Red Cross talks and economic negotiations but only through authoritative political dialogues such as north-south parliamentary talks.

If the north-south parliamentary talks agree on and make public the joint declaration of non-aggression, the north and south authorities would materialize it, thereby easily solving the problem of adopting the north-south declaration of non-aggression.

Only then can the major distrust and misunderstanding between the north and the south be drastically eliminated and furthermore, would it be possible for both sides to reallot huge amount of military expenditure earmarked for the continued arms buildup to the peaceful economic construction.

We are ready to open-heartedly deliberate over in the north-south parliamentary talks any proposals made by the south to promote national concord and trust and to ease tension besides the issue of agreeing and announcing joint declaration of non-aggression.

It goes without saying that only when the armistice agreement is replaced by a peace agreement in the tripartite talks between us and the United States and south Korea, can the non-aggression declaration between the north and the south guarantee a solid and durable peace.

The adoption of the non-aggression declaration itself, however, can surely make a big stride in preventing possible armed conflicts and other unwanted happenings and laying a base for peace and the peaceful reunification of the country.

The non-aggression declaration will be a historical peace declaration announcing internally and externally that the north and the south will take the road to peace and peaceful reunification, not to the fratricide it will also be an excellent manifestation of the national unity in which we will improve the north-south relations on the basis of the national concord and trust and shape our nation's destiny on our own.

At present, there is of another significance of holding the talks between the north and the south parliamentarians.

If the north-south parliamentary talks is held and bears a good result, it will serve as an excellent occasion in realizing high-level political negotiations between both sides. Herein lies a greater significance

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said in his New Year address that if the north-south dialogues proceed successfully to meet the people's expectation and in accordance with the idea of the national reunification, these will develop gradually onto high-level talks and, further, culminate in high-level political negotiations between north and south.

We sincerely wish that the north-south parliamentary talks will successfully proceed in such a direction as to pave the way to the high-level political talks between the north and south.

We are aware that south Korean President Chon Du Hwan in his policy speech this year, made a proposal for "talks between supreme chiefs of the north and the south," saying that "the north-south dialogue, whatever form it may be, will be of great use for peace and harmony."

Report on Fulfilment of 1984 State Budget and on 1985 Budget

PYONGYANG April 9 (KCNA) – Deputy Kim Hwan, vice-Premier of the Administration Council, made a report "On the Fulfilment of the 1984 State Budget and on the 1985 State Budget" at the fourth session of the seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK which opened today.

The reporter said:

Last year our heroic working class and the rest of the working people, under the wise leadership of our party and in ardent response to its militant calls, effected a revolutionary upswing on all fronts of socialist construction through an energetic drive in the spirit of Chollima spurred on by the "Speed of the 80s" and thereby successfully fulfilled last year's national economic plan and carried out the second Seven-Year Plan.

A great upswing was brought about in production in all domains of the national economy and the economy developed at a fast tempo, with the result that the state budget for last year was fulfilled with success, he noted.

According to the report, the state budgetary revenue last year was 26,305,100,000 won, or 0.3 percent above the plan and 7.9 percent above the 1983 figure.

Over the past 7 years since the start of the fulfilment of the second Seven-Year Plan the state budgetary revenue has increased at an annual average tempo of 9.7 percent.

The state budgetary expenditure last year was 26,158,000,000 won, or 99.7 percent of the plan and 8.9 percent above the 1983 figure.

The state budget last year was successfully fulfilled with an excess of revenue amounting to 147,100,000 won after fully ensuring a huge sum of funds for stepping up socialist construction, increasing the defence capabilities of the country and improving the people's living.

Last year the DPRK Government increased the expenditure of funds to the national economy 11.1 percent above the previous year to lay a solid foundation for the fulfilment of the second Seven-Year Plan and the attainment of the Ten Long-Range Objectives of Socialist Economic Construction and directed a greater proportion of it to capital construction for expanded reproduction.

It allotted a huge sum of funds 1.2 times the 1983 figure to the coal, mining and power industries and much funds to the metal, engineering and chemical industries and other manufacturing industries last year.

Thanks to the care of our Party, an instant rice factory, sea products processing factory and many other modern light industrial factories which are of importance in improving the people's living were built, daily necessities shops and workteams and home workteams increased in large numbers and many domestic producers cooperatives and sideline workteams were organized last year, with the result that much more quantities of various mass consumption goods of high quality were produced and supplied.

Last year the DPRK Government directed 25 percent more funds than the 1983 figure to transport.

As a result, the roadbed project of the northern railway construction was fulfilled in more than 80 percent, a large proportion of construction project promoted successfully, over 200 *ri* long railways were electrified and the reconstruction and expansion projects of railway factories were promoted to boost the capacity of railway transport last year.

Much funds were directed to agriculture last year.

The 26 million ton target of grain production was hit, the material and technical foundations of agriculture were consolidated, the food problem for the people was solved more satisfactorily and a definite prospect opened for attaining the 15 million ton target of grain production in the near future.

The DPRK Government disbursed 14.6 percent of the total expenditure of the state budget as defence spendings last year to cope with the reckless new war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean puppet clique, thoroughly implemented our party's military line of self-reliance in defence and increased the defence capabilities of the country.

The expenditure for social and cultural measures last year increased 7.5 percent above the 1983 figure, 7 percent for education and 8.1 percent for health care.

In the educational field, 30 universities and 86 colleges of university level made their appearance last year.

The 11-year compulsory education is in force with success in our country which has 216 universities and 576 colleges and our education has reached a very high stage to successfully realize the intellectualization of the whole society.

Last year our Party again took the sum of funds to the scientific researches, readjustment of towns and villages on modern lines, extensive construction of dwelling houses and satisfactory enforcement of popular measures.

Last year our party again took the popular measure of supplying all the children and students across the country with good-quality clothes, underwear, shoes and other daily necessities and foodstuffs free of charge on the occasion of April 15, the greatest national holiday.

Thanks to the popular measures taken by the Party and the Government for the betterment of the people's living the real income of factory and office workers has increased 1.6 fold and that of peasants 1.4 fold in the period of the fulfilment of the second Seven-Year Plan.

Last year our Republic took the compatriotic measure of sending to the south Korean flood victims sincerity-imbued relief goods – 50,000 *sok* of rice, 500,000 metres of textiles, 100,000 tons of cement and medicines.

The educational aid fund and stipends the homeland sent to the Koreans in Japan till the end of last year in 94 instalments amounted to 36,305,522,033 yen in Japanese currency.

All the proud successes made in the socialist economic construction and the fulfilment of the state budget last year are a result of the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il Sung and a brilliant fruition of the tested leadership of our Party which leads the revolution and construction to victory.

The reporter said the state budget for this year was currenctly compiled so as to satisfactorily ensure with finance the struggle to effect a new upswing in socialist economic construction by thoroughly following the direction of economic construction indicated by President Kim Il Sung and the Party's policy on giving definite priority to extracting and power industries and railway transport, radically increasing the production of iron and steel and improving the people's living.

According to the report, the revenue and expenditure of the state budget for this year are scaled respectively at 27,383,600,000 won or 4.1 percent above last year in revenue and 4.7 percent in expenditure.

The state budget for this year allots 59.8 percent of the investment in productive capital construction to the extracting and power industries, railway transport and metal industry.

Over a million kw more generating capacity will be created in the 1-2 years to come through a vigorous construction of hydro-power stations, the northern railway project be accelerated and double-track laying projects be held in the Kanri-Sinryonpo, Yangdok-Kowon and Kowon-Hamhung sections and other sections under the heavy pressure of railway transport.

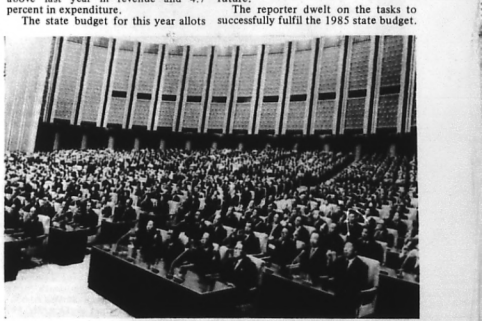
The DPRK Government will increase this year investments in building-materials industry 15 percent above last year and in agriculture 11 percent and direct much funds to engineering, light and chemical industries and fisheries.

This year the state will increase the expenditure for social and cultral measures 4.1 percent above last year and that for education 4.5 percent.

This year the DPRK Government will disburse 14.5 percent of the total expenditure of the state budget as defence spendings.

The state budget for this year is a revolutionary budget for socialist economic construction which firmly underlies with finance the vigorous general march of our working people toward the glorious grand festival under the socialist economic construction proprogram put forward by President Kim Il Sung and the leadership of our Party and an independent, popular budget which reliably guarantees our people a happy life and a brighter future.

The reporter dwelt on the tasks to successfully fulfil the 1985 state budget.



The fourth session of the seventh Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea adopted a "letter to the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea". PHOTO: Attendants to the session.

(Continued from page 4)

The identity of the both sides' view represents a same base on which the north and the south will develop the dialogue for the sake of promoting national harmony and trust and lessening tension.

When the high-level political talks is held following the successful undertaking of the north-south parliamentary talks and announcement of a joint declaration of non-aggression, it will be possible to settle with credit all problems including the adoption of the non-aggression declaration, one of the main agenda items to be debated.

The parliamentary talks will exert an encouraging influence on the Red Cross talks and economic negotiations it will also give a strong impetus to many-sided cooperation and interchange between the north and the south.

It will not only open up a bright vista of the improvement of the north-south relations, but speed up the implementation of the tripartite talks designed to ensure permanent peace in Korea.

When the north and the south share an identity on the issue of peace, the United States will no longer be "suspicious" of our three-way talks proposal nor reluctant to respond to it.

Joint Parliamentary Conference or Representative Talks Desirable

The parliamentary talks may proceed in various forms.

We consider it good to hold the talks either in the form of a joint session of both parliaments or in the form of talks between the representatives of both parliaments composed of parliamentary delegations respectively.

As far as the joint session is concerned, it sounds reasonable that the members of the South Korean National Assembly would be present at a session of our Supreme People's Assembly and our deputies to the SPA at a plenary session of South Korean National Assembly and they would jointly discuss and decide the issues with equal rights and duties.

As for the talks between the representatives of both parliaments, it will be reasonable for both sides to compose the delegations of appropriate number of MPs from different parties led by the speakers or deputy speakers.

In view of the present acute situation and the magnitude of the talks, we are looking forward to an earliest holding of the north-south parliamentary talks.

We think it reasonable to have a preliminary contact between the working-level delegates appointed by the respective speakers in Panmunjom in early may in order to hold a prior consultation about the arrangement of the north-south parliamentary talks.

To sum up, the current proposal of ours, new and positive, is to hold north-south parliamentary talks and discuss there the question of adopting a joint declaration of non-aggression and other urgent questions of creating the atmosphere of national concord and trust, as well as easing tension.

This proposal bases itself on taking into deep consideration the recent views and opinions expressed by the south Korean side on the question of dialogue and reunification. The proposal, therefore, reflects our earnest intention to resolve the internal questions by the Korean people themselves in a peaceful way.

We hope that the current South Korean National Assembly will carefully consider our new proposal out of the desire to tide over the present crisis. And we are also sure that it will give an affirmative answer to meet the demand and desire of the nation.

April 19 Uprising and Its Implications

By Li Sang Chil
Special to The People's Korea

Today, 25 years since the April Popular Uprising of 1960, the south Korean people still have a long way to go toward its stated spirit and goal, with all their hard-won gains in their movement. The planned April 25 departure of the present military dictator Chon Du Hwan for Washington, timed to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the watershed uprising, serves notice that the United States stands in their way of south Korean people's attempt to restroe democracy and achieve full independence.

The strong showing of the New Korea Democratic Party in the Feb. general elections is only a new start of the local people's struggle. South Korea is no closer to democracy and reunification than it was in April, 1960, with Syngman Rhee deposed.

Below, a brief review of the events since April, 1960 and an essay on the future prospects with focus on the present-day signification of the student uprising.

"April 19's fundamental target is still alive and its ultimate task is the reunification of the divided country and the accomplishment of democratic revolution." (Hankook Ilbo, April 19, 1980)

The south Korean people have realized through their own precious experience in the April 19 Popular Uprising and the following anti-"government" struggle that, only by expelling foreign forces from the south and sweeping away such a dictatorial junta, can they achieve real freedom, liberation and national reunification.

"It is the first task to expel foreign forces from the south and found its independence in order to reunify the country," declared a symposium of south Korean students and other people on Nov. 4 in 1961.

The april 19 Popular Uprising marked the first national resistance of the south Korean people to the tyranny of the U.S.-backed Syngman Rhee "regime." They were in demand of freedom and liberation, new government and new life.

25 Years after May 16 Mil. Coup

Even since Gen. Pak Jung Hi, backed by the U.S., seized power by force on May 16, 1961, the people of broad strata put up vigorous struggles: The June 3, 1964 struggle against "south Korea-Japan talks": August 1965 struggle for the abrogation of the south Korea-Japan agreements: Struggle against the June 8, 1967 unfair elections; and the struggle against the constitutional amendment for a long-term office for Pak Jung Hi.

The youth and students formed the National Federation of Youth and Students for Democracy in 1973 and conducted a dynamic anti-dictatorial democratization struggle under the militant slogans "Down with Pak Jung Hi," "Repeal the revitalized constitution ruinous to the Nation!" and "Pak regime must assume responsibility for the split of the nation and resign!"

This struggle involved workers as the main force. In September, 1974 more than 75,000 workers of the Ulsan Shipyard rose in a mass action under the slogan "Ensure the freedom of forming trade unions!" "End intelligence-backed tyrannical policy!"

After 1975, the struggles developed gradually from the spontaneous into organized forms, from limited popular to mass participation. Increasingly apparent was purposefulness as the struggle assumed a stubborn and protracted nature.

Grand Alliance

The formation of the National Union for Democracy and National Unification on March 1, 1979, as the umbrella body of 13 dissident organizations, signaled the imminence of a grand alliance for democracy. Such alliance became a reality when the then No. 1 opposition New Democratic Party decided to join the national union in helping young female workers of Y.H. Trading Company sitting in the NDP headquarters.

The Y.H. affair marked the marriage of political parties on one hand and non-party dissident forces including the labour movement on the other, the background of the Pusan-Masan revolt which resulted in the death of the dictator Pak Jung Hi at the hands of his intelligence chief on Oct. 26, 1979.

According to the January issue of Japanese politicotheoretical magazine Sekai, nearly 200,000 citizens, students and workers were involved in the Pusan-Masan rebellion. The October 26 assassination reinforced the mass struggle against the dictatorial yushin system.

Growing Anti-American Sentiments

After the assassination, the anti-yushin democratic struggles expanded day by day, involving a large number of students, workers, professors, democrats and journalists.

The student slogans changed from "campus democratization and ouster of government-patronized professors" to "the immediate abolition of yushin remnants" furthermore "the resignation of Shin Hyon Hwak, Chon Du Hwan and Choi Gyu Ha."

Anti-"government" struggles grew radical when full martial law was expanded to the whole of south Korea on May 18 that Gen. Chon Du Hwan revealed his colours as the second yushin dictator.

The proclamation of full martial law amounted to a second military takeover, an announcement of placing the whole of south Korea under military rule. The proclamation directly produced the 1980 Kwangju Popular Uprising.

Over 300,000 students and citizens of Kwangju were brutally silenced on May 27 by martial law army and special forces after a ten-day uprising.

The Chon-led martial law forces, supported by tanks and airborne units, killed more than 2,000 people and injured over 10,000. The U.S. allowed south Korea to mobilize for the attack on Kwangju troops under the control of the U.S.-south Korea joint command."

The Chon-led martial troops massacred the youth and old Kwangju citizens as they held peaceful demonstrations calling for democracy during the Kwangju incident in May, 1980.

Since the Kwangju incident, anti-American feeling in south Korea has been growing.

Many people feel that it is the U.S. that has been behind all these actions of the last few years. The U.S. decision to release south Korean troops under U.S. command to help enforce martial law and quell the Kwangju rebellion was a tinderblow which ignited the growing anti-U.S. sentiments.

In an ominous development, participants in recent protests in Kwangju, including a sit-in at the American Cultural Center there, criticized the U.S. as the root cause of their problems, far from a benefactor of democracy. (Asian Wall Street Journal, May 30, 1980)

Kyung Hee University students in their declaration issued on Sep. 9, 1980, entitled "Let Us Punish Murderer Chon Du Hwan in the Name of the People", said, "The U.S. government, which had styled itself as a friend, allowed the use of troops under the Combined Forces Command in the Kwangju incident and virtually agreed to the murder of democratic citizens, and recently advanced a preposterous argument that the south Korean people supported Chon Du Hwan.

"As the chief executive of Uncle Sam who advocates human rights diplomacy, takes sides with Chon Du Hwan murderer, it is self-evident that the U.S. can never be a friendly nation to our Korean people and that she will face harsh criticism in the international community of nations."

Seoul National University students, in their declaration called "Student Declaration of the Anti-Fascist Campaign", clearly declared: "The United States sensing a brewing crisis in the people's struggles characteristic of '70s, took a preventative step called the Oct. 26 incident, recognized the south Korean ruling system and now backs a new fascist regime."

In a new flare-up of violent anti-American sentiments, the American Cultural Center in Kwangju was set on fire two times at the end of 1980 and in 1981.

The American Cultural Center in Pusan was on fire in "an organized way" on March 18 in 1982 and some 800 leaflets denouncing U.S.'s "neo-colonial policy" and demanding GI pullout from south Korea found scattered there.

Students of Kangwon National University in Chunchon burned a Stars and Stripes and scattered anti-Chon and anti-Reagan handbills with shouts of "Yankee go home" on a university campus on April 23 in 1982, a Seoul newspaper Chungang Ilbo reported on April 23.

As a dramatic anti-U.S. violent action, a bomb blast ripped through the U.S. Cultural Center in Taegu on the evening of September 22 in 1983.

Among the growing anti-U.S. sentiments in south Korea, students rose in demonstrations in protest against President Ronald Reagan's Seoul visit.

At least 2,200 students at five universities staged anti-U.S. campus demonstrations on Nov. 8, 9 and 10 in 1983.

Meanwhile, a group of south Korean dissidents, including Pastor Moon Ik Hwan, issued a joint statement on Nov. 8 and urged Reagan not to support the local military dictatorial "regime" led by Chon Du Hwan.

Kim Yong Sam, former head of the banned major opposition New Democratic Party; in his interview with a group of foreign reporters warned if President Reagan continued to support the dictatorial regime, "there will be more anti-Americanism, especially among the students."

These anti-American actions were unprecedented in 38 years of extensive American presence in south Korea.

A three-story American Cultural Center building in Pusan is burning in a fire due to an act of arson on Mar. 18. Anti-U.S. leaflets were found scattered near the building before the fire broke out. (AP)

Sharpening Anti-Japanese Sentiments

The 1984's struggle saw new flare-ups against Chon Du Hwan's Japan tour from Sep. 6 to 8 in 1984 which students denounced as a sellout diplomacy.

His trip galvanized the traditional anti-Japanese sentiments of the south Korean people in parallel with anti-Americanism.

Chon's trip was badly marred by repeated outbreaks and violent protests involving workers and students. Rallies were held throughout south Korea to burn in effigies of the dictator and the Japanese Emperor, Korea's former conqueror, and Japanese flags. Rocks were thrown at Japanese Embassy buildings and the Japan Air Line office in Seoul. 77 prominent civic leaders fasted and student demonstrations were organized on and out of campuses, with angry statements issued one after another.

One of Chon's aim in his trip to Japan was to write off the past Japanese crimes against Korea, weaken anti-Japanese feelings and make the population insensitive to Japanese behavior. Students went to the length of singling out Cho Yong Pil, popular singer, for severe criticism as a pro-Japanese who curries favor with the Japanese.

Marked sophistication and radicalization can be observed in a wide range of student demands from campus autonomy to north-south students talks and sports exchanges. At the time when the demand for north-south student talks was raised, a student of Sung Kyun

(Continued on page 8)

The History of Korean Residents in Japan And Chongryun

2 The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan

(Continued from the previous issue)

A great many Korean schools were set up throughout Japan after the Japanese defeat in WWII, on Aug. 15, 1945, and Korean residents' democratic traditional education has since been greatly developed under the wise guidance of President Kim Il Sung.

Today Chongryun runs a total of 154 schools, — 1 university, 12 senior high schools, 56 middle high schools, 85 elementary schools. (In addition, there are 2-3 year kindergartens, and a 2-year post-graduate course.)

The basic aim of traditional Korean education is to produce able men and women who will contribute to the development of their fatherland.

The graduates of Korean schools mostly work in various organ of Chongryun and its affiliated organizations. Others work in small enterprises run by their parents.

Every school is a self-supporting organization, and is managed by its school board.

Besides regular schools, Chongryun operates a Japan-wide network of adult schools, youth schools and cultural seminars.

2)Literature and arts, sports and the press

Korean writers and artists in Japan are organized into the Union of Korean Men of Letters and Arts in Japan comprising literary writers, musicians, painters and other artists, as an affiliated organization of Chongryun.

The organization with about 700 members devides into 7 sections, including the sections of literature, music, dancing and photography.

It has the head office in Tokyo and branches in 10 cities.

Chongryun runs nine troupes, including the Kumgangsan Opera Troupe, some 650 music and dance circles and over 200 sports clubs throughout Japan.

Among the periodicals published by Chongryun are the Korean-language Choson Sinbo, The People's Korea in English, French, and Spanish and its Japanese edition. Korean news is distributed on a daily basis in English and Japanese.

The Korean Pictorials is one of the representative Korean monthlies, and a variety of books and booklets, including natural and social science and literary works, are produced in Korean.

3) Negotiated reunification efforts

Great efforts are under way to build national unity within the 700,000 Korean residents, regardless of ideology and organizational affiliation.

Wholehearted support is expressed for the south Korean people in their movement for liberty, democracy and reunification.

An extraordinary amount of energy is directed at helping create an international climate favorable for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

4) International friendship

Chongryun maintains friendly relations with broad segments of Japanese society, such as scholars, men of culture, and pressmen on a basis of independence, friendship and peace.

Chongryun and its member organizations are affiliated with 11 international bodies as full members, and are deepening friendship and interchange with pacifist organizations, academic communities and cultural associations and intellectuals in many countries.

Chongryun is active in movements for nuclear disarmament and nuclear weapons-free zones throughout the world and in those for peace and disarmament.

Major Dates in Chongryun Work

1955
May 25: Chongryun is formed.
Aug. 6: Chongryun delegates attend the First World Conference against A-H Bombs in capacity of DPRK representatives.

1956
Apr. 10: Choson University is founded.
1957
Apr. 8: First remittance to Japan of educational aid funds and stipends from Pyongyang.
Dec. 26: Chongryun delegates attend the Second Afro-Asian Peoples' Conference held in Cairo.
1958
Sep. 8: President Kim Il Sung welcomes the proposed repatriation to the DPRK of Korean residents in Japan.
1959
Jun. 3: A Kobe-Tokyo bicycle march begins in demand of repatriation to the DPRK.
Jun. 8: The Association of Korean Scientists in Japan is formed.
Dec. 14: The first repatriation ship leaves Niigata Port for Korea.
1960
Apr. 19: South Korean people and students topple the dictatorial Syngman Rhee regime in a major uprising.
1961
Jan. 1: The English language newspaper People's Korea made its debut.
Mar. 28: Representatives of the Union of Korean Men of Letters and Arts in Japan attend an Afro-Asian writers conference to speak for the Union of Korean Writers of the DPRK.
1962
Mar. 22: The Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly issues a decree awarding state orders and medals to faculty members at Choson University in Tokyo.
Jul. 1: A delegation of Korean youths in Japan leaves Tokyo for Helsinki to take part in the 8th International Youth Festival for Peace and Friendship.
1963
April 15: The Chongryun head office was completed
Oct. 9: The DPRK Nationality Law is proclaimed.
1964
Mar. 16: An Osaka-Tokyo walking march of Korean residents for free travels to the DPRK.
Jul. 27: A delegation of the Federation of Korean Buddhists in Japan attends the First World Religious Conference for Peace.
1965

Choson (Korea) University founded in April 1956, in a Tokyo suburb, serves as the sole institution of high learning for Koreans here. It has 8 departments: Literature, history-geography, political-economy, industrial management, foreign languages, science, engineering, 2-year post-graduate course, and teachers' training course.

Photo shows a fan dance performed by members of the Kumgangsan Opera Troupe. The troupe receives high applause after performing in Japan and the DPRK.

Jun. 22: Chongryun issues a statement opposing the conclusion of south Korea-Japan agreement.
Oct. 22: The Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly issues a decree nominating Korean artists resident in Japan as Merited Artists and decorating some others.
Dec. 29: The first home-visiting Korean residents leave Japan for the DPRK.
1966
Dec. 13: A music and dance epic "Under the Glory of the Homeland" is performed by Korean students and artists in celebration of the 20th anniversary of lower secondary education for Korean children in Japan.
1967
Nov. 11: Seven representatives of Chongryun are elected to the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.
1968
Apr. 17: Choson University in Tokyo is authorized by the Tokyo Governor.
1969
Jul. 5: The Union of Korean Teachers and School Clerks in Japan is admitted to the FISE.
1970
May 17: A DPRK commodities exhibition is held in Tokyo.
1971
Nov. 17: The suprapartisan Japanese Dietmen's League for Promotion of Japan-Korea friendship is formed.
1972
Aug. 7: A joint youth meeting of Chongryun and Mindan (the south Korean residents union in Japan) is held in support of the North-South Korean Joint Statement.
Sep. 5: A Japanese Association for Cultural Interchange between Japan and Korea.
1973
Jan. 16: A delegation of the Korean School Teachers Union in Japan attends an Indian forum of Asian School Teachers Unions.

(To be continued)

Report on Human Rights in the "Republic of Korea" (2)

International Obligations of "ROK" To Respect Human Rights

(Continued from the previous issue)

Cold War politics have prevented both North and South Korea from becoming United Nations members. North Korea which at one time sought United Nations membership as the sole representative of Korea is apparently no longer seeking that membership for itself. It takes the position that only a reunified Korea should be admitted to membership. South Korea continues to express a desire to be a United Nations member and proposes that both governments be admitted.

As a nation which aspires to membership in the United Nations, the Republic of Korea must accept the basic principles which guide that organization, including, inter alia, "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all." In fact, article 9 of the South Korean Constitution affirms that "[i]t shall be the duty of the State to confirm and guarantee the fundamental and inviolable human rights of individuals," and the country's official public policy, as noted above, is to present itself as a democracy in which fundamental rights are protected.

In recognition of its international responsibilities and to protect its international image, the South Korean government has responded to inquiries from the United Nations Human Rights Center concerning communications alleging gross violations of human rights filed under the provisions of Economic and Social Council Resolution 1503 (XLVIII); it has participated as an observer in sessions of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, in which, for example, it vigorously defended its prosecution of Kim Dae Jung in 1980. As an entity seeking international legitimacy at the United Nations and admission through the portals of membership, it can do nothing other than accept the propriety of the organization's interest in its affairs.

A May 1982 memorandum from the South Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs asserts that "the Government of the Republic of Korea has on numerous occasions taken action to protect and promote the human rights of its people."

In citing action by UNESCO's Committee on Conventions and Recommendations, the Interparliamentary Union, and the United Nations Human Rights Commission and the Sub-Commission in support of its contention that "the understanding of the human rights situation in Korea in the international community is gradually improving," the South Korean government implicitly accepts the international standards that are within the mandates of these bodies.

Despite this acceptance, however, South Korea has not ratified such major human rights treaties such as the two United Nations Covenants on Human Rights. Only members of the Organization are eligible to ratify the Conventions adopted under the auspices of the International Labor Organization and the Republic of Korea is accordingly not a party to any of those. It is, however, a party to the four 1949 Geneva Conventions on Armed Conflicts and the 1977 Protocols thereto, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Genocide Convention, and treaties on Prostitution, the Political Rights of Women and on Stateless Persons.

In addition to these formal treaty obligations, South Korea is legally bound by customary international law. While the precise extent of such customary law is subject to debate, it is beyond question that it today includes prohibition of genocide, systematic racial discrimination, officially sanctioned torture, prolonged arbitrary imprisonment, and the deprivation of life. Among these universally binding norms, South Korea has at various times been accused of violating those against torture, arbitrary imprisonment, and arbitrary killing.

While it may not be appropriate to compare every aspect of human rights in South Korea with each detailed provision of the Covenants or of other international human rights instruments, general reference to the basic rights set forth in such United Nations documents as the Covenants, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of 1984, is certainly warranted, based on the South Korean government's own pronouncements. Where we believe that it is appropriate we follow this approach in following chapters of this report.

It is also worth noting that the South Korean constitution suggests standards for limitations on rights which are quite similar to those found in international texts. For example, Article 35 (2) of the constitution provides that

> The freedoms and rights of citizens may be restricted by law only when necessary for national security, the maintenance of public order or public welfare. Even when such restriction is imposed, no essentials of the freedom or rights shall be violated.

Compare, for example, articles 18 and 21 of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights:

> Article 18 (3). Freedom to mainfest one's religion or beliefs may be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary to protect public safety, order, health, or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others.
>
> Article 21. The right of peaceful assembly shall be recognized. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of this right other than those imposed in conformity with the law and which are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, public order (order public), the protection of public health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

Such "clawback" provisions in the international instruments must be construed strictly so that the "exceptions" do not swallow up the rights. The same is true of language like that in Article 35 (2) of the Constitution. Accordingly the international instruments provide a benchmark for examining exceptions made to the broad range of rights promised in the Constitution, just as they provide a benchmark for examining the extent to which the South Korean government has delivered on its promise to afford the basic rights themselves.

Among the rights and freedoms guaranteed under the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which have been violated on a systematic basis in South Korea are:

- the right to life (article 4);
- the prohibition against torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of punishment (article 7);
- freedom from arbitrary detention (article 9);
- the right to a fair hearing by an independent tribunal, including the right to an adequate defense, in the determination of a criminal charge (article 14);
- the prohibition against ex post facto punishment (article 15).
- freedom of expression and the press (article 19);
- the right of peaceful assembly (article 21);
- freedom of association, including the right to form and join trade unions (article 22); and
- the right to participate in public affairs, including the right to vote in free, periodic elections (article 25).

President Reagan stated in his address to the Korean National Assembly on November 12, 1983:

> The development of democratic political institutions is the surest means to build the national consensus that is the foundation of true security ... The U.S. welcomes the goals that you have set for political development and increased respect for human rights for democratic practices.

While every country should be granted a degree of deference with respect to the manner in which it chooses to protect and interpret human rights, no country seeking international legitimacy can ignore the objective comparison of its actions with the basic norms of international human rights.

By its repeated assertions that human rights are fully respected in South Korea, the government invites scrutiny by the international community. It is in response to that invitation that the present report is offered.

Recommendations

The South Korean government has ratified several human rights instruments. However, it has not yet ratified Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the most basic of the human rights instruments. The Republic of Korea should:

1. ratify the human rights instruments to which it is not yet party;
2. adhere to the obligations it has undertaken with respect to the instruments it has ratified; and
3. publicize the reports on its compliance with the standards set forth in the human rights instruments and encourage broad public discussion of the reports.

(To be continued)

(Continued from page 1)

reasonable for both sides to compose the delegations of appropriate number of MPs from different parties led by the speakers or deputy speakers."

Pyongyang hopes to have a preliminary contact between the working-level delegates appointed by the respective speakers at Panmunjom in early May in order to discuss details of north-south parliamentary talks.

1985 Budget Adopted

Deputy Kim Hwan, Vice Premier of the Administration Council, made a report "On the Fulfilment of the 1984 State Budget and on the 1985 State Budget" at the first-day session.

The reporter said that the state budgetary revenue last year was 26,305,100,000 won, or 0.3 percent above the plan and 7.9 percent above the 1983 figure.

He disclosed in the report that over the past 7 years since the start of the second Seven-Year Plan the state budgetary revenue has increased at an annual average tempo of 9.7 percent.

Last year's expenditure was 26,158,000,000 won, or 99.7 percent of the plan and 8.9 percent above the 1983 figure.

The DPRK government disbursed 14.6 percent of the total expenditure of the state budget as defence spendings last year while 14.5 percent of the total expenditure go to the defence purpose this year.

According to the report, the revenue and expenditure of the state budget for this year are scaled respectively at 27,383,600,000 won or 4.1 percent above last year in revenue and 4.7 percent in expenditure.

The state budget for this year allots 59.8 percent of the investment in productive capital construction to the extracting and power industries, railway transport and metal industry.

(Continued from page 6)

Kwan University was arrested on Oct. 30 on charges of singing "Song of General Kim Il Sung," Hankook Ilbo reported on Oct. 31, 1984.

Popular Grievance at Illegitimate Chon

This year's Feb. 12 elections revealed significant popular dissatisfaction with Gen. Chon's military-backed junta.

Despite unfair electoral rules and the "government-party" campaign obstruction the newly formed New Korea Democratic Party emerged as a major opposition party getting 67 assembly seats. Throughout the campaign NKDP candidates accused the junta of "being dictatorial, corrupt, incompetent" and Kwangju massacre and called for far-reaching democratic reforms, picking up surprising support among the voters.

Now the New Korea Democratic Party backed by Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam came to control 103 of the 276 assembly seats, securing enough parliamentary seats to convene the one-house national assembly any time it wants when it was joined more than 30 defectors from other opposition groups, suggesting a more vigorous and vociferous struggle against the dictator Chon Du Hwan.

However, the people's ardent aspirations for national reunification and democracy are still repressed.

The Chon junta announced the massive operation of the Team Spirit 85 joint military exercise involving over 200,000 U.S. and south Korean troops on Jan. 4, 1985 just three days after the DPRK President Kim Il Sung made a New Year's speech proposing high-level talks between the DPRK and south Korea.

The Team Spirit series of joint military exercise began in 1976, though Pyongyang has never conducted any war games of a similar scale and none of war exercises with its allies.

South Korean repressive system under the second "Yushin Constitution" remains still intact.

The Chon junta can arbitrarily detain and punish a person merely on the basis of his or her supposed beliefs and thoughts. There are still physical tortures of political prisoners designed to extract information of a change in political attitude. Police strip and sexually threaten girl students because of their political attitude.

South Korean authorities make politically-motivated incarcerations without warrants, and detain and interrogate political dissidents, especially students without formal arrest.

So long as a dictatorship remains, the spirit of "April 19" will never be gone among the people.

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